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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/666,577	09/22/2003	Zhichen Xu	200300594-1	8618
22879 7590 08/10/2007 HEWLETT PACKARD COMPANY P O BOX 272400, 3404 E. HARMONY ROAD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION FORT COLLINS, CO 80527-2400			EXAMINER LEROUX, ETIENNE PIERRE	
			ART UNIT 2161	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 08/10/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/666,577	Applicant(s) XU ET AL.	
	Examiner Etienne P. LeRoux	Art Unit 2161	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 July 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 20, 21, 23-30, 34, 35 and 40-45 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 20, 21, 23-30, 34, 35 and 40-45 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 9/22/2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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Claim Status:

Claims 20, 21, 23-35, 40, 41 and 43-45 are pending. Claims 1, 4, 6-19 have been withdrawn, claims 2, 3, 5, 22, 36-39 and 42 have been cancelled. Claims 20, 21, 23-35, 40, 41 and 43-45 are rejected as detailed below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 20, 21, 23-30, 34, 35 and 40-45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Pat No 6,766,334 (Kaler et al), hereafter Kaler.

Claims 20, 29, 34, 35, 40 and 45

Kaler discloses:

storing objects [col 7, lines 19-23] in the file system including a first object [Fig 4, File 1, version 427] and a second object [Fig 4, File 1, version 429] wherein the first object is related to the second object [Fig 4, file version history 408, col 10, lines 40-50]

storing a relation metadata identifying a relationship between the first object and the second object, wherein the relationship is represented by a data model including a first identifier

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identifying the first object; a second identifier identifying the second object [Fig 4, file version history 408, col 10, lines 40-50]

a relation identifier identifying the relationship between the first object and the second object [configuration 403, Fig 4]

determining whether the first object in the file system is accessed [user checks out version 2, col 10, lines 25-40];

identifying a predetermined condition associated with the first object in response to the first object being accessed [version 2 is identified, col 10, lines 25-40]

performing an action [version 2 is modified, col 10, lines 25-40] in response to the predetermined condition existing wherein the relation identifier identifies the predetermined condition [modified version 2 is merged with current version 5 to create version 6, col 10, lines 25-40]

Kaler discloses the elements of the claimed invention as noted above but does not disclose wherein the relation identifier identifies the action. Official Notice is taken that incorporating the action into the relation identifier is well-known and expected in the art. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the action into the relation identifier for the purpose of automating the incorporation of a user change into the project file [col 10, lines 25-50].

Claim 21:

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Kaler discloses the elements of the claimed invention as noted above and furthermore discloses wherein the first object includes a first file stored in the file system and the second object includes one or more of a second file stored in the file system and semantic information for the first file [Fig 4, col 10, lines 25-50]

Claim 23 and 43:

Kaler discloses the elements of the claimed invention as noted above and furthermore discloses determining a user-related or application-related dependency between the first object and the second object generating a view of the file system based on the dependency [user accesses version 2, col 10, lines 25-40]

Claim 24, 30 and 44:

Kaler discloses the elements of the claimed invention as noted above and furthermore discloses executing a query of the stored objects and generating a file space view from the search results of the executed query [user accesses version 2, col 10, lines 25-40]

Claims 25, 26 and 41:

Kaler discloses the elements of the claimed invention as noted above and furthermore discloses generating a schema using a plurality of relation meta data, the plurality of relation meta data identifying relationships between one or more of the objects [Fig 4, file version histories 404-409]

Claim 27:

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Kaler discloses the elements of the claimed invention as noted above and furthermore discloses wherein at least one of the plurality of relation meta data is determined through property inheritance for the schema [col 10, lines 30-40]

Claim 28:

Kaler discloses the elements of the claimed invention as noted above and furthermore discloses identifying a restriction on accessing the first object from the relation herein the first object is a file and the second object identifies one or more of a user and an application having restricted access to the file [col 4, lines 49-55]

Claims 31 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaler as applied to claims 20, 29 and 30 above, and further in view of Pub No US 2004/0111422 (Devarakonda et al), hereafter Devarakonda

Claim 31:

Kaler discloses the elements of the claimed invention as noted above and furthermore discloses wherein the semantic information includes one or more types of semantic information comprising content-based semantic information [Fig 4, file version histories 404-409] related to the content of the file system, and property semantic information related to statistics or descriptions of the files stored in the file system [file name]. Kaler does not disclose context-based semantic information related to user access patterns of the files stored in the file system. Devarakonda discloses context-based semantic information related to user access patterns of the files stored in the file system [paragraph 6]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill

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in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Kaler to include context-based semantic information related to user access patterns of the files stored in the file system as taught by Devarakonda for the purpose of controlling file locking [paragraph 6]

Claim 32:

The combination of Kaler and Devarakonda discloses the elements of the claimed invention as noted above and furthermore discloses searching a plurality of the types of semantic information [Kaler, col 2, lines 35-45]

Claim 33 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Kaler and Devarakonda as applied to claim 31 above, and further in view of US Pat No 7,181,438 (Szabo), hereafter Szabo

Claim 33:

The combination of Kaler and Devarakonda discloses the elements of the claimed invention as noted above but does not disclose returning results of the search using a precision variable, wherein the precision variable is related to a relevance of search results to the research request. Szabo discloses returning results of the search using a precision variable, wherein the precision variable is related to a relevance of search results to the research request [col 87, lines 40-50]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the above combination of references to include returning results of the search using a precision variable, wherein the precision variable is related to a relevance of

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search results to the research request as taught by Szabo for the purpose of ranking search results such that a search result can be selected for further consideration.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 7/27/2007 have been fully considered but they are moot based on above new grounds of rejection.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Etienne P. LeRoux whose telephone number is (571) 272-4022. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Apu Mofiz can be reached on (571) 272-4080. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Etienne LeRoux

7/8/2007

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Etienne P. LeRoux". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "E" and "L".

**ETIENNE LEROUX
PRIMARY EXAMINER**